



## Weekly Newsletter

September 27, 2005

Bonsai Potato



### Spud Science

It is amazing what you can do in a science classroom with a potato. Simulate an avalanche, build a battery, identify enzymes or even create an alternative fuel. If spud science sounds interesting to you, check out these links:

[http://www.sierraclub.org/john\\_muir\\_exhibit/lessons/science/grade\\_8\\_valanche.html](http://www.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/lessons/science/grade_8_valanche.html)

Avalanches: modeling with potato flakes

<http://sftrc.cas.psu.edu/LessonPlans/EarthSciences/PotatoMountain.html>

Potato Mountain: creating topographic maps

<http://www.madsci.org/experiments/archive/889917606.Ch.html>

How to make a potato battery

[http://cosmology.berkeley.edu/Education/DEMOS/Potato\\_Power/Potato\\_Teacher.html](http://cosmology.berkeley.edu/Education/DEMOS/Potato_Power/Potato_Teacher.html) Potato Power

<http://latteier.com/potato/> 500 pound Potato Battery

<http://www.ccmr.cornell.edu/education/modules/documents/DiscoveringEnzymes.pdf> Discovering Enzymes

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/vsvs/lessons/opsmosis%20in%20potato%20with%20rect.%20slices.doc>

Osmosis/diffusion experiment using Potato Rectangles

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/science/gmofods.html> Genetically Modified Foods

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/rpp/llrw/download/kinney-foodirr-7.pdf>

Food Irradiation: impact on potato blight

[http://www.eduref.org/cgi-bin/printlessons.cgi/Virtual/Lessons/Science/Process\\_Skills/SPS0043.html](http://www.eduref.org/cgi-bin/printlessons.cgi/Virtual/Lessons/Science/Process_Skills/SPS0043.html) Potato Chip Classification

<http://www.sciencespot.net/Pages/chipchall.html>

The Chip Challenge: design a container to protect your chip

[http://www.exploratorium.edu/science\\_explorer/pringles\\_pinhole.html](http://www.exploratorium.edu/science_explorer/pringles_pinhole.html)

Pringles Pinhole Camera

[http://www.abc.net.au/science/surfingscientist/pdf/teacher\\_demonstrations.pdf](http://www.abc.net.au/science/surfingscientist/pdf/teacher_demonstrations.pdf) Straw through a Potato

<http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/experiment/00000026>

Straw Through Potato

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/thebrain-perception/>

Good Senses: tricking your brain with foods that look alike

[http://www.scsc.k12.ar.us/1999outwest/members/BoubelikB/lesson\\_plans.htm](http://www.scsc.k12.ar.us/1999outwest/members/BoubelikB/lesson_plans.htm) The Life Cycle of a Potato

<http://www.acfnewsources.org/cgi-bin/printer.cgi?300>

Space Spuds: growing potatoes in space

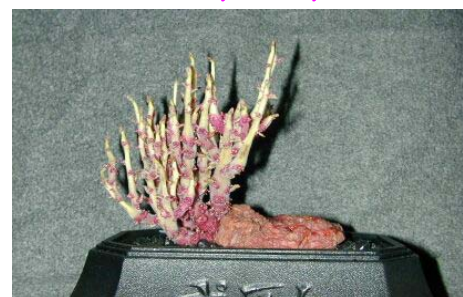
<http://www.hybridcars.com/blogs/teaparty>

Brief article on alternative fuels (biodiesel)

<http://portland.bizjournals.com/portland/stories/2005/06/06/daily1.html>

Kettle Chips brand donating used oil for biodiesel project

<http://greatscott.com/potato/> Bonsai Potato Project



### Free Cruise to Masonboro Island

Carolina Ocean Studies is sponsoring a free field trip for all North Carolina teachers on Saturday, November 12th from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, departing from Carolina Beach. Teachers may bring one complimentary guest. For reservations please call (910) 458-7302 or email: [cos\\_reservations@charterinternet.com](mailto:cos_reservations@charterinternet.com)

### Minority Scientists as Role Models

Are you looking for some role models to encourage your minority students to engage in science? If so, check out the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (**SACNAS**) website: <http://www2.sacnas.org/biography/default.asp>. Their **Biography Project** highlights the research of many scientists, including Dr. Sonja Ortega, the NSF GK-12 program director.